

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 1 and AMEND claims 2, 5, 14, 21 and 23 in accordance with the following:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A bread maker having a main body and a heating system, the main body comprising:

a base frame provided in the main body;

a main frame disposed above the base frame to form an oven compartment with a front opening, the oven compartment accommodating an oven and a kneading system to knead dough within the oven compartment; and

a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame;

wherein the heating system generates heat in the oven to make bread from the dough, and

~~The bread maker according to claim 1,~~ wherein the reinforcing member supports the oven by contacting a bottom of the oven.

3. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 2, wherein the reinforcing member is combined to at least one of a left, a right, or a rear side of the main frame.

4. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 2, wherein the reinforcing member supports a lower portion of the oven.

5. (Currently Amended) A bread maker having a main body and a heating system, the main body comprising:

a base frame provided in the main body;

a main frame disposed above the base frame to form an oven compartment with a front opening, the oven compartment accommodating an oven and a kneading system to knead

dough within the oven compartment;

a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame; and

~~The bread maker according to claim 1, further comprising at least one auxiliary~~
reinforcing member mounted to the main frame spaced from the reinforcing member;

wherein the heating system generates heat in the oven to make bread from the dough.

6. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 5, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is disposed above the oven.

7. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 5, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is combined to at least one of the left, the right or the rear sides of the main frame.

8. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 2, further comprising at least one auxiliary reinforcing member mounted to the main frame spaced from the reinforcing member.

9. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 8, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is disposed above the oven.

10. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 8, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is combined to at least one of the left, the right or the rear side of the main frame.

11. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 3, further comprising at least one auxiliary reinforcing member mounted to the main frame spaced from the reinforcing member.

12. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 11, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is disposed above the oven.

13. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 11, wherein the auxiliary reinforcing member is combined to at least one of the left, the right or the rear side of the main frame.

14. (Currently Amended) A bread maker having a heating system, comprising:
a main frame disposed above a base frame to form an oven compartment and a component compartment, the oven compartment accommodating an oven and a kneading system to knead dough within the oven compartment;
a left frame and a right frame to form a left part and a right part of the oven compartment;

a rear frame to form the rear part of the oven compartment;
an upper bracket to form an upper portion of the oven compartment;
a control panel supporting frame to support a control panel provided in front of the component compartment; and
a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame;
wherein the reinforcing member supports the oven by contacting a bottom of the oven,
and
wherein the heating system generates heat in the oven to make bread from dough.

15. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 14, wherein the main frame is combined with the oven via screws.

16. (Cancelled) The bread maker according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcing member is disposed below the oven compartment and supports the oven by being in contact with a bottom portion of the oven.

17. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcing member is shaped like a plate, and is combined to at least one of a left, a right, or a rear frame of the main frame.

18. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 14, wherein the reinforcing member and the main frame are combined by spot-welding.

19. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 14, further comprising:
at least one auxiliary reinforcing member disposed to the main frame.

20. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 19, wherein the at least one auxiliary reinforcing member is shaped like a plate.

21. (Currently Amended) A bread maker having a heating system, comprising:
a main frame disposed above a base frame to form an oven compartment and a component compartment, the oven compartment accommodating an oven and a kneading system to knead dough within the oven compartment;
a left frame and a right frame to form a left part and a right part of the oven compartment;

a rear frame to form the rear part of the oven compartment;
an upper bracket to form an upper portion of the oven compartment; and
a reinforcing member extending horizontally and ~~in contact with~~ attached to and between
the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame;
wherein the heating system generates heat in the oven to make bread from dough.

22. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 21, wherein the reinforcing member is disposed beneath the oven compartment.

23. (Currently Amended) The bread maker having a heating system, comprising:
a main frame disposed above a base frame to form an oven compartment and a component compartment, the oven compartment accommodating an oven and a kneading system to knead dough within the oven compartment; a left frame and a right frame to form a left part and a right part of the oven compartment;
a rear frame to form the rear part of the oven compartment;
a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame; and
at least one auxiliary reinforcing member extending horizontally and ~~in contact with~~ attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame;
wherein the heating system generates heat in the oven to make bread from dough.

24. (Original) The bread maker according to claim 23, wherein the reinforcing member is disposed beneath the oven compartment.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 2, 5, 14, 21 and 23 are amended. Claims 2-24 are pending.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, at page 2, claims 1, 8-14, 17, 18 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,778,766 to Wang. Claim 1 was cancelled. Claims 8-13 depend from allowable claim 2.

As to independent claim 14, claim 14 was amended to include the features of allowable claim 2. Claims 17 and 18 depend from claim 14 and are therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 14

This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to claims 21-24 because Wang does not discuss or suggest:

a left frame and a right frame to form a left part and a right part of the oven compartment;...[and]

a reinforcing member extending horizontally and attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame,

as recited in independent claim 21.

Further, Wang does not discuss or suggest:

a left frame and a right frame to form a left part and a right part of the oven compartment;

a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame; and

at least one auxiliary reinforcing member extending horizontally and attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame,

as recited in independent claim 23.

As a non-limiting example, the present invention of claim 21, for example, is directed to a bread maker including left and right frames of the oven compartment portion of the bread maker and a reinforcing member extending horizontally and in contact with the left and right frames of the oven compartment. As a non-limiting example, the present invention of claim 23, for example, is directed to a bread maker including both a reinforcing member mounted to the main

frame of the bread maker to reinforce the main frame and at least one auxiliary reinforcing member extending horizontally and in contact with left and right frames of the oven compartment of the bread maker.

Wang discusses a breadmaker with a toaster oven function. As shown in Figs. 3 and 7, for example, a flange extends off of the housing 1 of the oven around the edge of the housing 1 in order to abut against the outer covering of the breadmaker when the outer covering is placed over the housing 1. The flange extends around an outer periphery of the housing 1.

First, there is no discussion in Wang of the flange being a reinforcing member that reinforces the housing 1. The flange merely appears to lie adjacent to the outer covering of the breadmaker, but does not appear to be affixed to either side of the outer covering such that the flange would be a reinforcing member. Further, the Examiner alleges that housing 1 corresponds to the main frame forming an oven compartment. Thus, as the flange extends off of housing 1, it is unclear as to how the flange can be reinforcing the housing.

Second, Wang does not discuss or suggest, specifically in reference to the flange to which the Examiner refers, that the flange extends horizontally and is attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment. The top flange portion extends off of the housing 1, but is not attached to and between the sidewalls 9 of the housing 1. The top flange portion extends around the outer periphery of the housing 1, but the top flange is not attached directly to or between both of the left and right sides 9 of the housing 1. The top flange in particular extends only from the top portion of the housing 1, but does not directly attach to and between left and right sides of the housing 1, in order to reinforce the housing 1. In particular, the top flange does not serve the purpose of reinforcing the housing 1.

As to claim 23, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 23, including the recitation of a first reinforcing member and an auxiliary reinforcing member is similar to the features of claim 5, which the Examiner indicated is allowable. Further, the side flange, which the Examiner alleges corresponds to an auxiliary reinforcing member, does not extend horizontally and in contact with left and right frames of the oven compartment. The side flanges extend vertically off of the sides of housing 1, but do not extend horizontally from the sides of housing 1, nor do the side flanges attach to and between left and right sides of the housing 1.

Therefore, as Wang does not discuss or suggest "a reinforcing member extending horizontally and attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame," as recited in independent claim 21, and Wang does not discuss or suggest "a reinforcing member mounted to the main frame to reinforce the main frame; and at

least one auxiliary reinforcing member extending horizontally and attached to and between the left and right frames of the oven compartment to reinforce the main frame," as recited in independent claim 23, independent claims 21 and 23 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 22 and 24 depend directly from independent claims 21 and 23 and include all the features of their respective independent claims, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the reference relied upon. For example, claim 22 recites that "the reinforcing member is disposed beneath the oven compartment." Therefore, claims 22 and 24 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants are appreciative of the indication that claims 2-7, 15, 16, 19 and 20, which are objected to, would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 2 and 5, from which claims 3, 4, 6 and 7 ultimately depend, were rewritten in independent form. Claim 14, from which claims 15, 16, 19 and 20 ultimately depend, was amended to incorporate the feature of claim 2, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable. Accordingly, claims 15, 16, 19 and 20 were not rewritten in independent form due to the dependency from claim 14, which is believed to be allowable in light of the claim amendment.